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# SPRUCE BUDWORM OUTBREAK

## AND CONTROL PLANS 1955

### BOISE & PAYETTE NATIONAL FORESTS. IDAHO

Infestations of spruce budworm, Choristoneura fumiferana (Clem.), now threaten nearly a million acres of commercially valuable spruce-fir timber mostly on the Payette and Boise National Forests. The destructive tree defoliators, which first became noticeable in this area three years ago will, unless controlled, cause irreparable losses of the timber resources and to the dependent lumber industry.

The volume of commercial timber ultimately threatened is 12.3 billion board feet with an estimated local lumber value of \$858,340,000. Potential losses to water users, recreationists, wildlife enthusiasts, other forest users, and the dependent industries amount to many more millions of dollars. Destruction of the area's esthetic beauty, too, would be an incalculable loss.

Damage surveys made in the fall of 1954 after the caterpillars had completed their feeding showed that natural enemies of the insect would need immediate outside help to reduce budworm damage and that control, to be effective, must cover at least 689,000 acres in the seriously infested areas. The volume of timber in the area to be treated is 5.7 billion board feet having a stumpage value of \$11,354,000 and a lumber value of \$397,500,000.

#### THE INSECT

The spruce budworm is one of the most destructive insect enemies of Douglas fir, true fir, and spruce in North America. Contrary to its common name the

#### FACTS ABOUT THE PROJECT

DURING THE PERIOD between late June and early August airplanes flying from four bases will apply insecticide to about 700,000 acres of the infested timber. Flights will be from about 4 a.m. to 10 a.m. on days suitable for flying.

SERIOUS DAMAGE to fish, birds, wild or domestic animals has never resulted from application of spray at the rates and strength to be used on this project. Experience has shown also that spraying does not destroy the budworm parasites.

People in areas where the spray is descending through the trees may notice a slight burning sensation in the eyes but this effect lasts only a few minutes. Deposits of the insecticide on clothing can be removed by washing or dry cleaning. Cars in the spray area will receive a coating of fine spray droplets which can be removed by washing.

PUBLIC PRECAUTIONS During the project there will be considerable extra traffic on the roads in the control areas. Please observe all posted areas and road precautions to assist your Forest Service in establishing a record for safe, efficient, economical completion of this important task in the public interest. A forest fire in the control areas could upset the schedule at considerable public expense. Your thoughtful attention to preventing all fires is requested.

#### COOPERATION

Cooperating with the Forest Service in this effort to preserve the vital public values involved are the State of Idaho Department of Forestry, the State of Idaho Land Department, the "Keep Idaho Green" Committee, the Southern Idaho Forestry Association, the South Idaho Lumber Industry, the Western Pine Association, the Southern Idaho Timber Protective Association, and the United States Bureau of Land Management. Representatives from these organizations comprise the South Idaho Pest Action Council.

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For further information call:

Boise National Forest, Boise, Idaho  
Payette National Forest, McCall, Idaho

#### PROJECT PERSONNEL

Director - Wm. H. Shaw, Boise  
Asst. Director, Units 1 & 2 - Edward L. Noble, Boise  
Asst. Director, Units 3 & 4 - Finley H. McNaughton, McCall  
Tech. Director - Malcolm Furniss, Boise  
Information - Lowell J. Farmer, Boise  
Safety - Horace E. Hedges, Boise  
Supervisor, Unit 1 - Melvin A. Coonrod, Idaho City  
Supervisor, Unit 2 - Robert Newcomer, Warm Springs  
Supervisor, Unit 3 - Ike Mills, Cascade  
Supervisor, Unit 4 - Jack Dienema, McCall

#### COOPERATORS

Idaho State Dept. of Forestry - Roger Guernsey  
Civil Aeronautics Authority - Al Witter  
Agricultural Research Service - Archie Gieser  
U.S. Weather Bureau - Archer Carpenter  
Idaho State Dept. of Aeronautics - Chet Moulton  
S.W. Idaho Pest Action Council - John Aram, Chairman

#### CONTROL UNITS AND CONTRACTORS

Idaho City, No. 1 - to be flown from the Idaho City airstrip by the W. Lynn Roberts Co. of Winnemucca, Nevada. Estimated acreage - 199,000  
Warm Springs, No. 2 - to be flown from the Warm Springs airstrip by the Coombs West Air Co. of Yakima, Washington. Estimated acreage - 199,000  
Cascade, No. 3 - to be flown from the Cascade airstrip by the Ball-Ralston Flying Service from Hillsboro, Oregon. Estimated acreage - 116,000  
McCall, No. 4 - to be flown from the McCall airport by the Johnson Flying Service of Missoula Montana. Estimated acreage - 174,000

#### PROJECT SAFETY

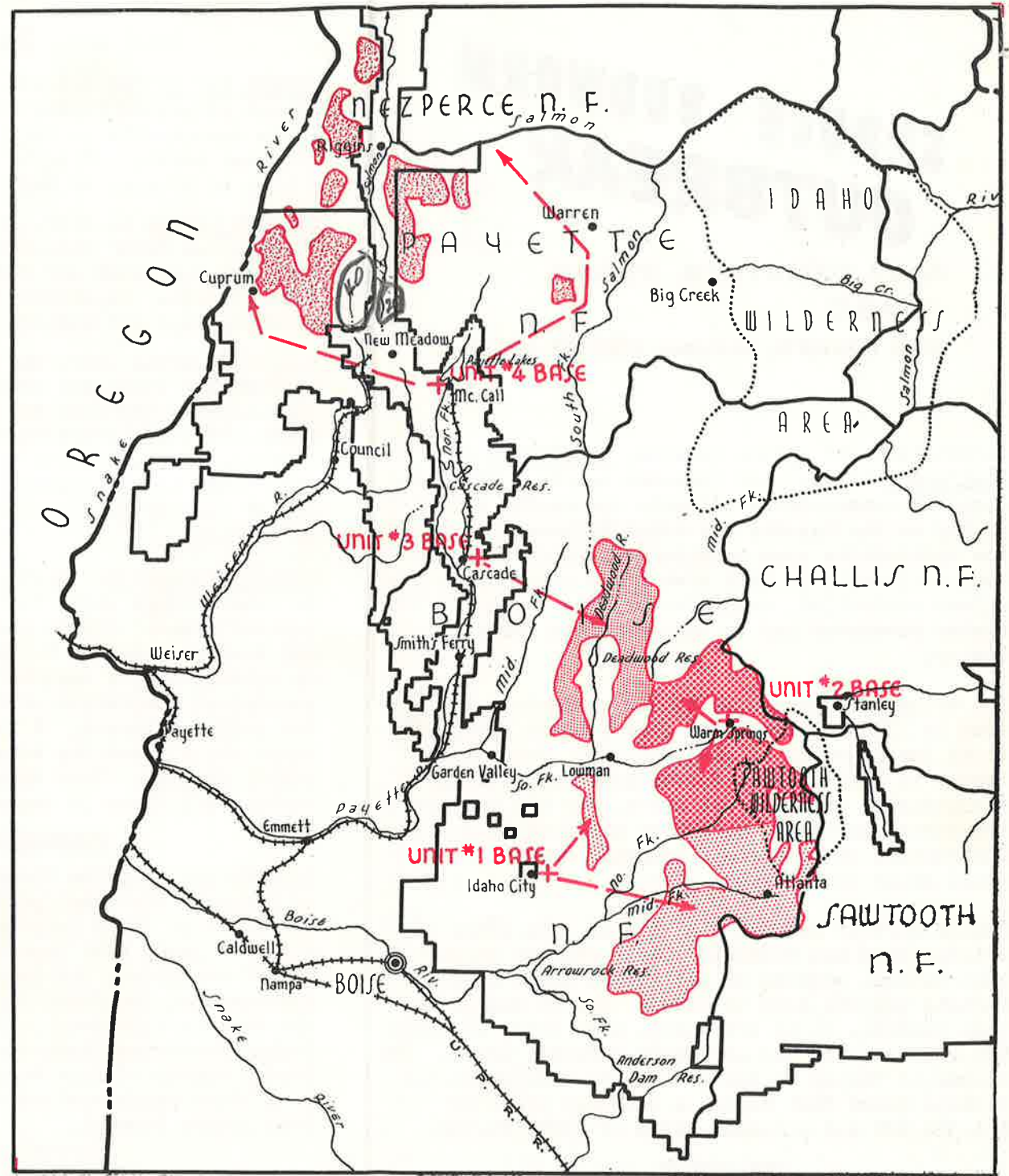
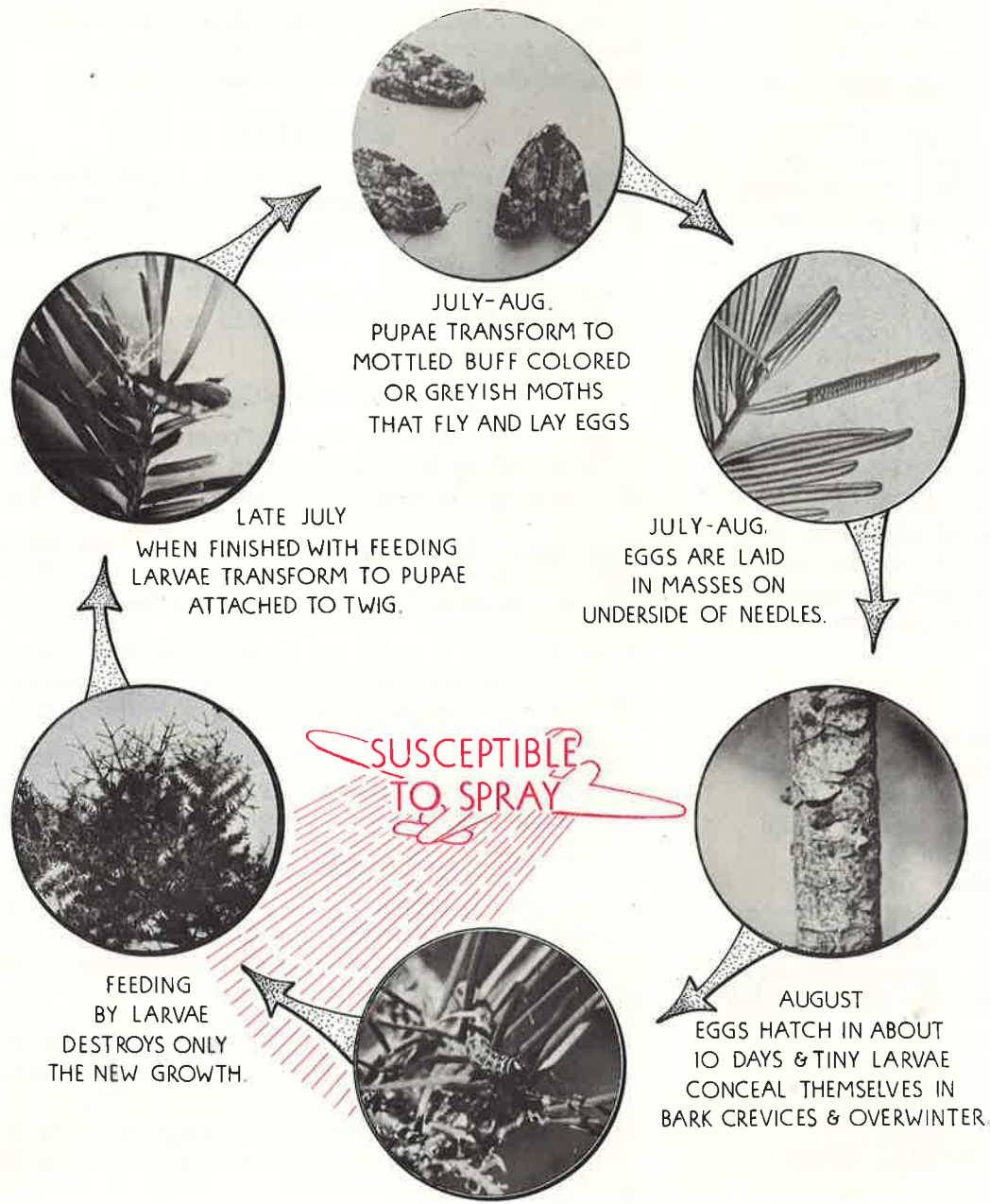
Every known safety skill and device has been incorporated into the project to make it safe and prevent costly lost-time accidents to personnel and equipment.

The Forest Service believes that only those projects which accomplish their objective safely, at the minimum of cost, are done well. As in the past, our objective is to accomplish this project with no lost-time accidents, fires, or damage to equipment.



# LIFE CYCLE of the SPRUCE BUDWORM

*Choristoneura fumiferana* (Clem.)



SPRUCE BUDWORM CONTROL PROJECT  
SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO  
BOISE, PAYETTE AND NEZPERCE NATIONAL FORESTS